Regional
✓ SACOSAN II, major policy shifts in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.
✓ Assessments of Community-led Total Sanitation.
✓ Improving accountability of service providers through benchmarking linked to performance improvement planning, and demand-side monitoring and social accountability.
✓ Engaging with the media: continued to support the development of a key platform for journalists.

Pakistan
✓ Supporting improved decentralized delivery in North West Frontier Province.
✓ Supporting improved governance, institutional arrangement and accountability to citizens for WSS in Karachi and five WASAs in Punjab.
✓ Supporting development of national sanitation policy and provincial strategies and programs.

India
✓ Supporting scale-up of rural sanitation to four more states.
✓ Supporting development of national urban sanitation policy and implementation.
✓ Supporting governments to improve solid waste management policies, strategies and practices with focus on safe and sanitary disposal.
✓ Supporting improved urban planning in two cities in conjunction with National Urban Renewal Mission with studies and assessments to support better targeting of finances for sector development.

Bangladesh
✓ Supporting improved monitoring and feedback to ensure sustainability of rural sanitation improvements.
✓ Supporting design of slum sanitation components via the Dhaka Water and Sanitation Project.
✓ Introduced benchmarking in 11 utilities, facilitated links to project monitoring of service delivery.
Today’s Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Challenges in South Asia

Poverty

- South Asia is home to 47 percent of the world’s poor living on less than $1 a day: approx 500 million people.
- Sustained growth will be necessary for poverty reduction, and concomitant improvement in institutional service delivery mechanisms will be essential for achieving progress in all other dimensions of the MDGs.
- Rapid Urbanization is taking place in South Asia and is placing enormous strain on infrastructure.

The Water Supply and Sanitation Sector in The South Asia Region

- 84 percent of the population has access to water supply and 67 percent has access to sanitation.
- South Asia has made significant strides in improving access to physical infrastructure, but this has not translated into improving service delivery to the poor.
- Continued urban population growth is likely to further increase the gap between the served and unserved.
- The major challenges in South Asia are to:
  - Undertake institutional and policy reforms that lead to the sustainability of water supply and sanitation (WSS);
  - Improve performance of service providers; and
  - Address water source sustainability issues – exploitation of groundwater and declining water quality.

Can Millennium Development Goals be Achieved in South Asia

TARGET 10: Halve by 2015 the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

Water and sanitation are basic services needed by all. South Asia has made excellent progress in providing access to water supply infrastructure, but progress has been slower in providing sanitation.

WATER: There are serious challenges relating to sustainability and quality of services.

SANITATION: There is good progress in improving access to rural areas. Urban sanitation is a major challenge and is currently posing huge threats to health and the environment.

Access to water supply infrastructure is increasing in urban areas